20: Wallace H-4,5 (1945) 1953 NO6 Comanche NO6

population, cultivating 15,000 acres in tracts ranging from 657 241
5 to 160 acres.[23]

Progress continued at about the same pace. In 1929 the 657
crops were valued at $400,000, the agricultural implements 241
and vehicles at $600,000, and the livestock at $286,000, and 433
the Indian Office was urging the unemployed to refrain from [422]
leasing any land that they could utilize profitably.[24] The [458]
lower values reported for agriculture during the next few
years represent the effects of the depression rather than a
retrogression. In 1942 the income from agriculture was ap- [434]
proximately $600,000.

The principal crops include cotton, wheat, corn, alfalfa, 241
oats, and sorghum. Cotton, with an average annual yield of 248
about 150 pounds of lint per acre, has been the leading cash 433
crop. The Washita and Red River bottoms are well adapted 243
to corn, producing an average of thirty bushels an acre. 433
Grain sorghums thrive on the uplands and are utilized as [246]
feed for livestock. Wheat, grown on the level and rolling
plains, averages about twelve bushels an acre. The pasture 233
land has been over-grazed and in 1945 had a carrying ca- 433
pacity of only one cow to seven acres.

The Extension Service has rendered valuable assistance to 657
the farmers. The older Indians are not interested, but the 241
younger land owners are accepting its services. The Exten-
sion farm program has supervised and instructed the Indians
in handling livestock, the preparation of the soil, the vari-
eties of crops to plant, and methods of crop cultivation. It
supervised the terracing of 18,646 acres of land in 1935.
Farmers who terraced received concrete or masonry dams
without cost.[25]

Credit and rehabilitation have been another phase of the 657
Extension Service program. The Wheeler-Howard Act of 241
1936 made federal loans available to worthy Indians en- 426
gaged in farming. By June, 1945, a total of 331 loans amount-

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23. Superintendent Kiowa-Comanche Agency, Annual Report, September 1, 1918. [113]
24. Burton, op. cit., sec. II, 18-19, 20, 22.
25. Superintendent W. E. McCown, Annual Report: Narrative Section, 1935 (MS, Agency Office, Anadarko), 11-12. [113]